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Newsletter

GRADUATE SCHOOL ★ USDA

To Faculty, Committee Members and others associated with the Graduate School:

In saying goodbye

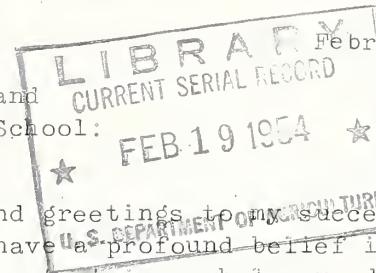
I am taking this opportunity to extend greetings to my successor, to wish him well in the undertaking. For I have a profound belief in the sound purpose of the Graduate School and I entertain a wholesome desire to see it continue to serve well and to advance.

The new director will have a most engaging experience. He will find many opportunities to challenge him. I believe he will be impressed -- as I have been -- by the value of the people who work with him to make the School a useful force. I am thinking especially of the committee members. Their contribution is largely one of devotion. They need the stimulus that flows from close association with the director and his staff. As he reviews the status of the committees, the new director will find that they are of basic importance. They should have the closest attention so they may continue to be fully effective.

I believe my successor will come to appreciate the importance of finding new ways to strengthen the graduate program, particularly as it refers to in-service training needs of the Department of Agriculture. Effective work by committees will help accomplish this end. It can be enormously furthered by continuing evidence of appreciation throughout the Department. A gain in GS strength in the Department will, I believe, be reflected in the attraction the School has for employees in other Government agencies. It will take the active interest and support of leaders in the Department and all of its agencies if the new director is to carry out committee recommendations for courses, seminars, and lecture series, and if the School is to fulfill its purpose, "to improve the Federal service by providing needed educational opportunities for Federal employees."

I believe the new director will also see the need for encouraging activities that help make in-service training facilities available to Government employees outside the Washington metropolitan area. We have been trying to do this (1) by expanding our extension courses, and (2) by seeking cooperation among educational institutions. Our efforts thus far have been successful enough to be encouraging.

Insofar as Department employees are concerned, I believe the greatest possibility lies in the development of educational cooperation with the land-grant institutions. As a means of cultivating this field of interest, the General Administration Board might well include a representative of the land-grant colleges and universities.



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Other activities to command the earnest consideration of my successor will be constantly arising. Some of these will perhaps be of greater moment than those I have indicated. He will find plenty to do.

As Director General of FAO, I too shall have my hands full. It's a tough job but one in which I expect to derive much interest and satisfaction between now and December 1957 when my term of office expires. Mrs. Cardon and I will leave Washington February 7. We are sailing on the Constitution the 10th for Naples. On Monday, the 22nd, I plan to assume my duties.

I want to express to all of you my deep appreciation for your helpful cooperation and friendly association. I could have done nothing in the Graduate School without you. What I have done has been with your help. To each of you go my best wishes and kindest regards. To the Graduate School go my fondest hopes for continued success in a most worthy cause.

Library courses

designed to assist men and women who hold semi-professional positions in 300 libraries in the Washington area have been set up by the Committee on Languages and Literature. Joseph Popecki, assistant to the director of libraries at Catholic University, will give four one-semester courses for this purpose. Two will be offered in the spring semester, two in the fall. According to the plan, the courses will be independently organized so that students may take one without having the others as prerequisites. They are: Principles of Library Organization, Principles of Cataloging, Classification; Bibliographic Practices, and Basic Reference Books, Bibliographic Tools. Each will carry two hours credit.

A review course for engineers

is under consideration by the engineering sub-committee of the Department of Technology. Members of the committee have in mind a course that would be helpful to people who plan to take the examination for an engineer's license in the District of Columbia. F. F. Snyder of the sub-committee is discussing the proposal with the D. C. licensing board.

New books

by two associated with GS are: LAND PROBLEMS AND POLICIES, a McGraw Hill release by V. Webster Johnson (FOA) and Raleigh Barlow, professor of agricultural economics at Michigan State; and READINGS IN AGRICULTURAL MARKETING, selected and edited by Frederick Waugh, (BAE), published by the Iowa State College Press. Both Dr. Johnson and Dr. Waugh are members of the Department of Social Sciences.

Word of GS activities

was rather widely spread in 1953. We distributed 11 thousand catalogs and 80 thousand course schedules through 300 contacts in Government agencies, libraries, embassies, and industrial concerns in the Washington area. We sent special publicity stories to the newspapers on new and timely courses and we issued the NEWSLETTER once a month for distribution to members of the faculty and committees.

New York University's

first program, in cooperation with GS, for Federal employees in the New York area was quite a success! Approximately 130 Federal employees registered for four courses with the greatest enrollment in "Federal Organization and Methods Analysis."

A questionnaire given to the students indicated a high degree of satisfaction with the courses. NYU gave certificates to the employees who took the courses and held a "graduation" ceremony.

Dr. Conaway worked with Professor Dworkis of NYU in organizing this program. NYU plans to offer another program of special courses for Federal employees this spring. As you know, we are cooperating in a similar program with Boston University.

Among new teachers

who are joining the GS faculty in February are:

Mrs. Olga Moore Arnold, who will conduct the workshop in fiction writing. An information specialist with the State Department, Mrs. Arnold is a graduate of the University of Wyoming and the author of two books, a novel, "Windswept," and "I'll Meet you in the Lobby."

William Vogely of the Bureau of Land Management (Interior) is taking the class in Economic Analysis, which was to have been given by Robert Grosse. Dr. Grosse has accepted a position in Israel with the Israeli government.

Julius Lieblein will teach Advanced Theory of Probability, which was to have been given by Murray A. Geisler, who is leaving the city. Dr. Lieblein is on the staff of the National Bureau of Standards.

Mrs. Edrie Way, registrar of the Foreign Service Institute, is the new instructor in Gregg Shorthand, 80 to 100 words, formerly taught by Ralph Rowland. Mrs. Way is a graduate of Arizona State College and Strayers Business School

New courses

Suggested by students in the informal survey made at the end of the first semester showed a wide range of interest. There were a number of requests for a course in Rapid Reading, for an advanced course in Hospital Administration or in Hospital Budgeting, for a detailed course covering Federal Income Tax Laws. Among others suggested were Group Dynamics, Medical Illustrations, Radio Writing, Elementary Auto Mechanics, Plant Nematology, elementary courses in Geology, Geography, Genetics, Japanese and Arabic.

We shall use these suggestions as guide lines in planning new work. For guides in setting up courses that are closely identified with specific training needs, we must depend upon officials concerned with training needs in their agencies.

Centers of training

for Government employees are being planned in Indonesia and Turkey. We learned about them recently from two visitors who came to talk with us about the operations of GS. R. Kasim Adisapoetra, head of the education section of the personnel division, Department of Home Affairs, Indonesia, was particularly interested in the organization of GS. Mrs. Bedia Cabanoglu, who was sent by the Turkish government to study the training of secretaries in this country, had a special interest in the courses offered here in shorthand and typing and in related work.

AMONG OURSELVES

Robley Winfrey, chief of training and education, Bureau of Public Roads, has been appointed to replace the late H. E. Hilts as a member of the Department Committee on Technology.

When Dean Cochran (FS) left Washington recently to assume new duties as regional forester with headquarters at Milwaukee, he brought to close 10 years of service to GS. We're sorry to see him leave Washington but wish him well in the new post. James Buckley, Assistant Director of Personnel, has replaced Dean as Chairman of our Committee on Personnel Administration.

If you have any ideas on setting up a curriculum for a degree in the field of surveying and mapping, Marshall Wright tells us he would like to have them. He is giving a paper on this subject at the annual meeting of the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping in March of this year.



P. V. Cardon
Director